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Slovenia Biotechnology GMO Testing 2004

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Report Highlights:

The Slovenian Institute for Health Protection has started to test for genetically modified organism (GMO) in food. The Institute tested 20 samples and found 3 samples containing GMOs. None of the products required labeling because the GMO content was low. However, Slovenian health inspectors have announced they will tighten their oversight of raw materials used for foodstuffs.

Includes PSD Changes: No Includes Trade Matrix: No Unscheduled Report Vienna [AU1] Slovenia has started to test for genetically modified organism (GMO) content in food after non-permitted percentages of GMO soy isolate were found in Croatia. The cases involved sausages produced by the Slovenian company Perutnina Ptuj (a Croatian subsidiary of Cakovec (see GAIN Report HR 4006).

The Slovenian Institute for Health Protection tested 20 samples (pates, sausages, and foodstuff derived from of soybeans) with 18 samples taken from Slovenian produced foodstuffs and 2 samples from foodstuffs imported from the E.U.

After quantitative tests, 5 samples appeared suspicious and were sent to the Slovenian National Institute for Biology. Second tests indicated that 3 samples had GMO content. None of the products required labeling because the GMO content was low. However, health inspectors will tighten their oversight of raw materials used in foodstuffs, so that GMO content does not accidentally surpass permissible levels.

Samples from Perutnina Ptuj had no traces of biotech content.